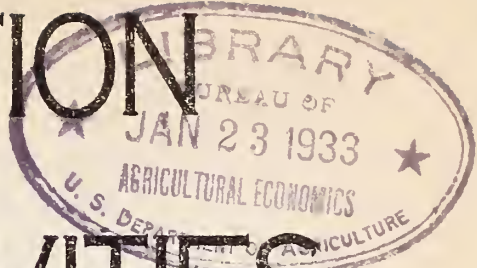


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FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES



A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 1, 1933.

Vol. VII, No. 1.

COMPARATIVE COST OF FOOD AT FARM AND CITY PRICES.

Dr. E. L. Kirkpatrick and Miss Aileen Cripps have made a study on the comparative cost of food at farm and city prices, of which an analysis is given herewith.

Just what would be the difference in the cost of foods in farm standard of living studies if all foods were charged at city prices? What change would this make in the total cost of living? How would it affect the percentage distribution of the principal groups of goods and services in the living and the proportions of the total living furnished by the farm and purchased?

An attempt was made to throw some light on these questions in connection with a study of rural standards of living in Dane County, Wisconsin. ¹/ Information was gathered by the survey method from 150 farm families chosen at random in two townships six to twelve miles from Stoughton, a city of approximately 5,000 population, during the spring of 1930.

The cost of furnished food charged at farm prices averaged \$177 for the 150 families. This represents 36 per cent of the cost of all food, \$516, and 10.9 per cent of the total cost of living, \$1629. With

¹/ Rural Standards of Living in Dane and Green Counties, Stencil Bulletin 106, University of Wisconsin Agricultural Extension Service, 1931. Report of one unit of study made by the departments of Rural Sociology, Agricultural Economics, and Home Economics, in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

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the furnished foods charged at farm prices, the cost of all foods, is 31.7 per cent of the total cost of living, clothing is 15 per cent, rent 17.9 per cent, furnishings 4.1 per cent, household operation 14.3 per cent, maintenance of health 5.4 per cent, advancement 6.6 per cent, personal 3.2 per cent, and life and health insurance 1.9 per cent. The proportion of the living furnished by the farm is 30.1 per cent on this basis.

For purposes of comparison the food products furnished by the farm were charged at retail prices in Stoughton at the time of the study 1929-1930. The original prices of purchased food were used since they represented retail prices in the city.

The cost of furnished foods at the city prices averaged \$298 per family. This is 68 per cent higher than the corresponding cost at farm prices. It represents 47 per cent of the cost of all food, and 17 per cent of the total cost of living, \$1750. With the furnished food charged at city prices, the cost of all foods is 36.4 per cent of the total cost of living, clothing is 13.9 per cent, rent 16.6 per cent, furnishings 3.8 per cent, household operation 13.4 per cent, maintenance of health 4.9 per cent, advancement 6.2 per cent, personal 3.2 per cent and life and health insurance 1.9 per cent. The proportion of the family living furnished by the farm amounts to 34.9 per cent of the total on the city price of foods basis.

Comparison with Results of Other Studies.

Comparisons with similar results are limited to a study of 187 families in Ohio. 2/ Furnished foods charged at Columbus retail prices rather than farm prices increased 64 per cent in cost. The costs were \$264 when charged at farm prices and \$433 when charged at Columbus retail prices. This increase is practically the same as for the Dane County study.

Need for Further Study.

More than anything else the results mentioned here emphasize the need for further comparative studies. Attention needs to be directed also to fuel and housing furnished by the farm. The cost of fuel, amounting to only \$22 per year for the Dane county families, may be expected to bear about the same relation to the city price fuel cost as the farm price of food cost does to the city price of food cost. The situation may be different, however, with respect to housing. Farm houses are extremely difficult to evaluate in their actual locations and settings and even more so when one attempts to guess what they would bring in the way of rent if they were in cities. Additional information is needed to give further light on these questions.

2/ C.E.Lively. Cost of Family Living on the Farm, Mimeograph report, Ohio State University, and Bulletin 468, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, 1930. The number of families was actually 117 but some of them kept records for more than one year.

AMERICAN COUNTRY LIFE
ASSOCIATION MEETING.

How farm people may get more out of life with a minimum expenditure of cash was probably the dominant note in the recent annual meeting of the American Country Life Association held at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, according to Dr. T.B.Manny, of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. The general topic for discussion was "Adult Education and Rural Life." Six discussion groups considered various phases of the subject, as follows: "The Agricultural Extension System"; "Adult Education by Religious Organizations"; "The Cultural Arts"; "Rural Adult Education through the Schools"; "The Extension of Library Service," and "Regional Planning and Adult Education." Dr. Manny took part in the discussion of several papers bearing upon adult education and rural life.

One general assembly period considered the topic "Economic Education Needed Today." Both speakers on this program stressed the idea that farmers stand in need of more general economic facts regarding world-wide conditions as a basis for more rational production programs on individual farms. At the same time, however, the idea of local self-sufficiency and a decentralization of light manufacturing to give part-time employment to farm people and to utilize raw products closer to their point of origin came in for some attention. The possibilities of increasing the spread and utilization of economic information relating to agriculture came up for discussion at one session of the group considering the Agricultural Extension Service. Greater use of local units of general farmers' organizations for this purpose was urged.

Local cooperative activity in all fields of rural life was commended in several different discussion groups and appeals for help in promoting such group activities were made by the extension forces. The breakdown of the competitive system and the advantage of replacing it by the cooperative system were discussed at some length.

The location of the meeting at Oglebay Park was significant in the light of the topic, for Oglebay Park itself indicates many of the possibilities of combining some forms of child and adult education with wholesome recreation. In the maintenance of this work the State University, State Agricultural College and Extension Service, Ohio County, city of Wheeling, West Virginia, business interests of northwestern West Virginia, southwestern Pennsylvania, and eastern Ohio, and organized rural groups are all cooperating.

RURAL INDUSTRIES IN KNOTT COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

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Mr. W.C.Nason's study of rural industries and household handicrafts in Knott County, Kentucky, has just been issued in mimeograph form. This may be had on request. This study marks the first of its kind in the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life but is only a beginning of a more comprehensive study of a large sample in many states on rural industries as an aid to the standard of living of the farm population.

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DIRECTORY OF TEACHERS OF
RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

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A directory of teachers of rural sociology has been issued by the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life in mimeograph form for the present scholastic year. It may be had upon request.

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ORGANIZATION OF NEW COUNTRY
LIFE CLUB IN WISCONSIN.

Officers and other selected members of the Blue Shield Country Life Club assisted with the organization of a country life club at the Platteville Wisconsin State Teachers College on Monday evening, November 28. The organization of the Club was the culmination of an interest which developed from a recent Conference of the Student Section of the American Country Life Association at Bethany and Oglebay Park, West Virginia. Stanley Hore, delegate, on returning to Platteville awakened an interest in his local college which resulted in the initiation of thirty-five members in a Blue Shield Country Life Club.

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GEE'S SOCIAL ECONOMICS OF AGRICULTURE.

The Macmillan Company has published Dr. Wilson Gee's text book on the social economics of agriculture. This book will be especially valuable to students in the colleges where rural sociology and rural economics are somewhat combined.

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FOURTH MEETING OF EXTENSION
RURAL SOCIOLOGISTS.

Seven states were represented at the meeting of Extension Rural Sociologists which was held during the American Country Life Conference at Oglebay Park, West Virginia, October 15, 1932.

The first official meeting of this group was held in December, 1930 in connection with the Science Meetings in Cleveland, Ohio. At that time a general statement of objectives in rural sociology extension was drafted and adopted. Consideration was also given to ways of measuring results, and to official titles or designations.

A second meeting following the 1931 American Country Life Conference helped to clarify objectives. It provided for further consideration of the relationship between research and extension in the field of rural sociology and for a discussion of specific types of programs in the social and cultural fields.

Members of the group held another meeting during the sessions of the American Sociological Society in Washington in December, 1931. At that time a committee was appointed to draw up a statement of policy or a plan for a permanent organization of the Extension workers in this field.

The first item of business at the 1932 meeting at Oglebay Park, West Virginia was the adoption of a form of constitution for the association. The objects of this organization were stated to include:

(1) Creation of a better acquaintance and esprit de corps among those interested in this field.

(2) The development of the objectives and methods of rural sociology extension work.

(3) Presentation of the results of this work in systematic form so that they may be made useful to the people of the various states.

(4) Bringing to the attention of the various agencies for the improvement of agriculture and rural life the point of view and the achievement of rural sociology work.

(5) Such other collective efforts as may help to bring about a better organized and more satisfactory rural life.

In the brief time that was available for the discussion of Extension programs emphasis was again placed upon the fact that rural sociology extension has a dual function. It is making a contribution to the structural organization of rural communities and it is also guiding and aiding the social and cultural activities which are involved in the proper functioning of rural groups. It was agreed that the programs in the various states represented were on the same general rural sociology base. All members of the group, however, expressed the desire for further opportunity to exchange experiences and develop a more adequate statement of common plans and aims. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting of the group at the time of the American Country Life Conference, Blacksburg, Virginia, August, 1933.

The officers elected for the ensuing year include:

President - B. L. Hummel, Virginia

Vice President - R. C. Smith, Ohio

Secretary-Treasurer - Robert Polson, New York

W.H.STACY.

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THIRD PURNELL CONFERENCE.

Between 25 and 30 research workers using Purnell funds on projects relating to the farm home, farm population, rural organizations, and related fields met for their third conference on research methods and problems. Special attention was given to needed research on problems arising out of the depression, including the extent and character of the recent landward movement, changes in standards of living, and the activities and outlook of thousands of farm young folk who in normal times would have migrated to the cities and found work in nonagricultural pursuits. The need for and application of results of research work in this field were presented.

It was agreed upon at the conference that each person who participated in formal discussions would put his paper into mimeograph form for distribution to rural sociologists.

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FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES FOR RURAL GROUPS.

The Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued in mimeograph form Miscellaneous Extension Publication, No. 8, under the joint authorship of T.B. Manny, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, and H.W. Gilbertson, Extension Service, entitled, "Fund-Raising Activities for Rural Groups." Copies may be had upon requests addressed to the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

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ANDERSON'S POPULATION TRENDS.

The Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station has just issued Bulletin 547 on "Population Trends in New York State, 1900-1930," by W.A.Anderson.

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GROWTH AND DECLINE OF FARM
TRADE CENTERS IN MINNESOTA.

The University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station has issued Bulletin 287 by C.E.Lively on the growth and decline of farm trade centers in Minnesota, 1905-1930.

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THE GROWTH CYCLE OF THE
FARM FAMILY.

The Ohio State University and the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station have recently issued a mimeograph prepared by Prof. C.E.Lively on the growth cycle of the farm family. It is an analysis of the size, composition and developmental changes occurring in certain Ohio farm families, in relation to age at marriage, duration of marriage and size of farm business.

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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS RESEARCH.

The study of the churches and church schools in the Southern Highlands, made under the direction of Miss Elizabeth Hooker, has been completed and will be ready for publication early in 1933. This study is a part of the general survey of the socio-economic situation in this area made cooperatively by the United States Department of Agriculture, five colleges of agriculture and the Institute.

In the late spring of 1929, the Institute of Social and Religious Research began a study of rural social trends under the direction of Edmund deS.Brunner. Field workers were sent to 21 counties previously studied in 1920-1921 and to 140 representative agricultural villages visited in 1924. Arrangements were also made to repeat the census analysis of population data for these villages using 1930 data. With the formation of the President's Research Committee on Social Trends, it seemed best to combine this study with that of the President's Committee. Prof. J.H.Kolb, University of Wisconsin, became co-director. A detailed report of this study under the title of Rural Social Trends will be issued from the McGraw Hill press late in January, 1933.

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IOWA STATE COLLEGE.

After two years trial, an all-college rural life day program has been made a regular feature at Iowa State College. On this one day special attention is given to rural problems by all divisions of the college. The program is featured by a nationally-known speaker who addresses an all-college convocation and a general faculty luncheon.

Demonstration exhibits by various departments and special rural programs by the students have had a place in the program for rural life day. Last year the student section of the American Country Life Association met at Ames and their program was fitted into our rural life day program. This year the Agricultural Extension Conference was closely connected with the rural life day program. The speaker last year was Provost A.R.Mann, and this year Dr. C. Taylor.

In response to a request by agricultural extension workers, a series of discussions was arranged on principles of sociology during the spring quarter. These discussions were led by Dr. Ray Wakeley and Dr. George Von Tungeln of the teaching staff in Sociology and extended over a period of twelve weeks, two hours per week.

In response to an unusual demand for suitable discussion material, W.H.Stacy, Extension Rural Sociologist, has written the following short bulletins on social problems in addition to the regular series of program helps in 1932:

How to Obtain Books, Ext. Bul. 180

Iowa's First Century, Ext. Mim. Circ. C. D. 19

An All-College Rural Life Day Program, Ext. Circ. Mim. C.D. 32

The Iowa Extension Program in Rural Sociology, Ext. Circ. Mim. C. D. 33

The Year 2000 - A Challenge, Ext. Circ. Mim. C.D. 38

A Balance Sheet of Country Life, Ext. Circ. Mim. C.D. 47

Adventures in Cooperation, Ext. Circ. Mim. C.D. 53

Living While We Work, Ext. Circ. Mim. C.D. 54

A Preliminary Report of the Cultural Arts in America, Ext. Circ. Mim. C.D. 56

Since early last spring a committee of the agricultural division has been working intensively to formulate a philosophy for agriculture and a set of objectives which will serve to guide the entire future program of the division of agriculture. The social sciences are well represented on this committee. W.H.Stacy, Extension Rural Sociologist, is an active member.

Dr. Ray E. Wakeley is giving a series of ten radio talks over the college station, WOI. This series on Building the Community is part of a larger program featuring the problems of rural organizations in Iowa sponsored by the agricultural extension department.

RAY E. WAKELEY.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Mr. Charles P. Loomis, formerly in rural sociology at North Carolina State College, now tutor at Harvard, has completed his residence work for a PhD. at Harvard and is planning to present his thesis within the next year. His dissertation deals with the relationship between the North Carolina families and the various forms of social organization to which they belong. The data were gathered under the auspices of the North Carolina Experiment Station and are being given scientific treatment under the direction of Professors Sorokin and Zimmerman of Harvard.

Social Science Research Fellowship holders in Rural Sociology now doing graduate work at Harvard include Carl F. Kraenzel, formerly of Minnesota and North Dakota, and at Radcliffe, Mrs. Evelyn Tough Crowe, formerly of Wisconsin.

Prof. P.A. Sorokin is at present making some original investigations into the sociology of art. A part of the investigations include the topic of rural art. The first results of these investigations will be published this summer in a series of articles in Sociologus, edited by Prof. Richard Thrunwald of Berlin. It is planned that a monograph on the sociology of art will be issued in German following the publication of these articles. A more comprehensive analysis of the study is to be published in English.

Prof. Zimmerman published a study of Engel's Law of Expenditure for Food in the Quarterly Journal of Economics for November, 1932, which will be of interest to many rural sociologists who are doing research in the field of farm family living. In addition he presented a paper at the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Society at Cincinnati on "The Field and Content of Rural Sociology."

Among many complimentary references to the Systematic Source Book in Rural Sociology by Professors P. A. Sorokin, C. J. Galpin and C. C. Zimmerman, the following will be of particular interest to American workers in rural sociology:

"May I take this occasion to compliment you on your monumental achievement in the field of Rural Sociology. To say there is nothing like it in the field for scholarly treatment and systematic comprehension would of course be a cheap compliment. While the volumes, which I make considerable use of in my course in Rural and also some in my follow-up course in Urban, contain much more than one can well use with undergraduates, it is just such work which will go far to give sociology, generally, needed status among our fellow social scientists, and to give us special disciplines within sociology instead of so many 'problems' courses that belong in part to social technology and in part to hodge-podgedom."

Wm. C. Lehmann,
Prof. of Sociology,
Syracuse University, New York

"I am finding the first two volumes of your exhaustive work on rural sociology a veritable mine of valuable material. It is far more than a source book on rural sociology, it is in my opinion one of the real contributions to sociology of the present decade."

M. C. Elmer,
Professor of Sociology and Chairman of the
Department, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

C. C. ZIMMERMAN.

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.

Prof. Walter Burr is on leave of absence during the first semester. As State Director of Unemployment Relief, he is supervising the administration of Federal relief funds coming from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

In the absence of Prof. Walter Burr, Miss Sara Feder is teaching courses in Social Case Work, The History of Social Work, and Community Organization. She is also pursuing research in the methods of rural family case work. Miss Feder is a graduate of the School of Social Service Administration of the University of Chicago. Last year she received a Master's degree from the University of Missouri.

The two-year upperclassman curriculum in Rural Public Welfare has an enrollment of fifty majors. Practice work to the extent of four hundred clock hours is required of our students. This is divided between work done in counties adjacent to the University and in cities in the Middle West. There appears to be an increasing demand in county social work for those specifically trained for the task. It is proposed that this work be placed on a graduate basis as soon as possible. There are now four graduate majors in training for rural social work.

Through the Agricultural Extension Service, the Department is conducting five regional institutes on rural social work. By this means assistance is rendered to county officials and others in meeting the present emergency in poor relief and related problems.

The research program for this year consists of the following projects:

1. Movements of Population in Missouri.
2. Community Trends - a Five-Year Study of Five Communities
3. Rural Public Welfare - The Organization and Administration of Rural Social Work.
4. Rural Population Groups - a Re-study of Boone County, Missouri, based on a similar study made ten years ago.

E.L.MORGAN

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

L.B.Snyder, instructor in Rural Economics and Sociology at Nebraska spent the summer in graduate study at the University of Chicago.

The College of Agriculture Experiment Station has issued Bulletin 267, entitled, "A Summary of the Standard of Living in Nebraska Farm Homes," by J.O.Rankin and E.H. Hinman. This bulletin is based on a study made in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK

The classes in rural sociology at Teachers College, Columbia University, Prof. Edmund deS.Brunner in charge, have enrolled, in addition to persons majoring in this subject or in rural education, students from 18 departments of the University. More than half the states, every census division, and a dozen foreign countries are represented in the enrollment. The number of students from Asia and Africa has been so large that for the last three years a special seminar has been conducted designed to meet the needs of these students.

Several experimental classes have been organized at Teachers College, Columbia University, conducted by groups of faculty members. These courses are designed to bring the experience and data of the various social sciences on particular educational problems or fields. Prof. Brunner is representing sociology, both general and rural, in three such groups dealing with comparative education, adult education, and curriculum. Considerable use is made in these classes of the discussion group method.

Prof. Mabel Carney, of the Rural Department of Teachers College, Columbia, spent the last eight weeks of 1932 visiting state-supported institutions for the preparation of Negro teachers and related schools in rural communities. The trip was carried out under the auspices of the General Education Board, and is but another illustration of the interest that Board has long maintained in various aspects of education in the South. Prof. Carney's itinerary carried her into every coastal state from Maryland to Texas, and Arkansas as well. It included visits to normal schools, county training schools, and colleges for Negroes, Jeanes Fund supervision, public rural schools of various types, and several outstanding privately supported Negro schools, and also a few State Universities, A. and M. Colleges, and State Departments of Education.

"What Next in Agriculture" was the topic of forum discussion held by the Rural Club of Teachers College, Columbia University, on December 8. Dr. H.C.Taylor, formerly chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, director of the Vermont Country Life Survey, and a member of the Appraisal Commission of the Laymen's Foreign Missions Inquiry, reviewed the

present problems of agriculture and outlined both temporary and permanent policies needed to provide an adequate National Agricultural Program. Dr. Edmund deS. Brunner, professor of Rural Sociology and Economics, Columbia University, led the discussion.

EDMUND deS. BRUNNER.

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Village Cost of Living. A study completed recently shows a village cost of living of \$1455 per family for the year ending April 30, 1932. This was distributed among the principal kinds of goods and services as follows: Food \$313, clothing \$168, rent \$263, household operation \$173, furnishings, \$57, health maintenance \$84, advancement \$121, automobile \$67, personal \$58, and life and health insurance \$82, and savings \$68. About 10 per cent of the food cost represents produce furnished from the home garden.

Almost 100, or more than one-half, of the village families were included in the study which was conducted by the survey method. The average size of family was 3.4 persons. The field work was done by students in the rural standards of living course under the direction of Miss Amy A. Gessner of the Department of Rural Sociology.

Comparison of this average with similar figures for a group of farm families less than twenty miles distant from Belleville are possible. The farm families visited in 1930 had an average cost of living amounting to \$1652. When adjusted to 1932 prices the village and farm families compared as follows in some of the principal elements of their living:

	<u>Village Families</u>	<u>Farm Families</u>
Food	\$313	\$368
Clothing	168	174
Rent	263	247
Fuel and light	123	107
All other	<u>519</u>	<u>439</u>
(not including savings)	\$1386	\$1335

Results of the study have been presented to the community club of Belleville. The cost of living study is a part of a larger study which also includes mapping the village trade and service areas and an analysis of the interrelation of the economic and social agencies of the village which serve the surrounding agricultural area.

State Rural Drama Festival and Public Discussion Demonstration. The fall and winter program of activities for rural organizations in Wisconsin

is well under way. Again hundreds of organizations are entered in amateur dramatics, but a different plan for the state event has been decided upon. There will be a state drama festival during Farm and Home Week in February instead of the tournament previously held.

To make this festival possible a series of four district events will be held. A state representative will visit all of these district events and select from them five or six plays to go to Madison for the festival. The plays will be chosen with a view to securing the best of various types for a well-balanced demonstration program and will not be judged.

Following a five-year cycle of drama tournaments in Wisconsin, a trial of the festival plan was thought to be a worth-while experiment. Members of rural organizations in this state have shown much interest in this plan, and already thirty-four counties have indicated an interest in qualifying for the State Festival by entering one of the district events.

A plan for public discussion on a state-wide basis is also under way. This program of discussion will be carried on through debate teams and public discussion teams. This too leads directly to the state demonstration for teams which qualify. The subject chosen for discussion is taxation. Materials on this topic, and training in the methods of public discussion are being supplied to rural organization by the Department of Rural Sociology through cooperation with the Agricultural Economics Department and the Department of Speech.

E.L.KIRKPATRICK.

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BOOKS FOR RURAL READERS.

The American Library Association has put out in mimeograph form a statement in regard to books for rural people. This circular is expected to be of special value to rural sociologists as including a summary of methods actually developed between state agricultural extension services and state library extension agencies for stimulating reading among rural people and providing the books needed.

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A LIST OF RURAL LIFE PUBLICATIONS.

This list of publications includes research bulletins published by the State Experiment Stations and some bulletins published by the Extension Service of the various State Colleges of Agriculture. The list is issued for the purpose of showing the chronological development of the subject of rural sociology in research and extension rather than for the purpose of helping to distribute bulletins published at the various colleges. In fact, many of the bulletins are not available at all, having been exhausted for some length of time. The teachers of rural sociology will be able better to develop their own projects of research and extension by careful perusal of the development of studies at these colleges of agriculture.

This mimeograph may be had upon request to the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 1, 1933.

Vol. VII, No. 2.

ADJUSTING RESEARCH IN FARM POPULATION TO PRESENT CONDITIONS.

The following is an excerpt from an address by Theo. B. Manny, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, before the Third Conference of Purnell Research Specialists in Rural Sociology:

Judging from the frequency of citations in the press and in periodical literature, the so-called back-to-the-land movement is at the forefront of popular interest. The research project of the United States Department of Agriculture concerning changes in number of persons living on farms and in movements of persons to and from farms is intended primarily to show only the national picture. In one way or another, several States are making an attempt to get these changes, but on the whole very little is being done along this line. From the standpoint of practical utilization by educators, taxation authorities, welfare agencies, etc., such surveys are very valuable especially in the light of recent basic changes in population trends.

A second type of research in farm population especially attractive to rural sociologists, whose research budgets are now reduced, consists in the utilization of 1930 Census data in a study of the farm population and comparing the farm population with other population groups. The county classifications for the rural-farm, rural-nonfarm and urban groups are carried out in much greater detail than formerly. Opportunities exist for many numerical comparisons or for the use of more involved statistical techniques in studying the composition and characteristics of the population.

A third type of population study that seems to be receiving renewed attention of late is that which focuses upon a small area

and seeks to determine population trends within that area, where persons born or resident there and subsequently leaving the locality have gone, what occupations they are pursuing, etc. Likewise, the former residence and occupation of persons moving into the local area are determined. Where a reasonably compact local area is selected, especially an area close to the college, the field expense of such a study is not large and much of the subsequent work can be carried on by correspondence. Studies of this kind in areas where the land is assumed to be submarginal for farming purposes are very significant in view of the expanding interest in land utilization and rural planning.

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THE RURAL SECTION OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The following are the officers of the rural section of the American Sociological Society for 1933:

Chairmen: Carle C. Zimmerman, Department of Sociology,
Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Vice-Chairman: Ernest Burnham, Western State Teachers College,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Secretary-Treasurer: C. Horace Hamilton, University of North
Carolina, Agricultural Experiment Station, State Col-
lege Station, Raleigh, N.C.

Members of the Executive Committee:

E. D. Tetreau, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
O. D. Duncan, Oklahoma State College of Agriculture,
Stillwater, Okla.

The committees for 1933 consist of the following:

Research: C. E. Lively, Chairman; other members, Lynn Smith,
Louisiana; Tom McCormick, Arkansas; B. L. Hummel,
V.P.I.; Walter A. Terpenning, Kalamazoo.

Teaching Committee: Robert A. Polson, Chairman, Cornell; other
members, N. L. Whetten, Storrs; E. A. Wilson, North
Dakota.

News and Reviews Committee: O. D. Duncan, Chairman. Oklahoma;
other members, A. Anderson, Harvard; T. B. Manny,
Washington, D. C.

Extension Committee: (the Executive Committee of the National Association of Extension Workers in Rural Sociology) which includes B. L. Hummel, Virginia, president; other members, R. C. Smith, Ohio; Robert Polson, New York.

The News and Reviews Committee is charged with seeing that reviews of the work and research in rural sociology are made available to the leading social science publications. Chairman Duncan and his associates are actively engaged in this. In addition, this committee, with the assistance of Secretary Hamilton, is to draw up a history of the rural section of the American Sociological Society including the important data as to membership, growth and work undertaken. The importance of this history lies in the fact that the Society can carry on a continuous program of development throughout the years.

C.E.Lively of Ohio State University represents the rural section of the Society on the committee charged with preparing a proposed revision of the American Sociological Society during 1933. The representatives on the Committee on Social Research of the American Sociological Society for 1933 include Edward A. Taylor of Ohio University and the Chairman of the Rural Section of the Society.

The program for the 1933 meeting of the American Sociological Society is to be built about the subject of racial and cultural contacts. President Reuter is interested in the conflict and fusion of social heritage arising from the extensive contact of strange peoples due to the great migrations of the 19th century. In the rural section, the executive committee has planned to build a program about the rural phases of this topic in addition to carrying on the annual discussions of research, extension and teaching methods.

CARLE C. ZIMMERMAN,
Chairman.

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS
REPORTS SALE OF SOURCE BOOK.

Mrs. M. S. Harding of the University of Minnesota Press called upon Dr. C.J.Galpin, in charge, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life and reported a sale of over 1,000 volumes of the SYSTEMATIC SOURCE BOOK IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY, published by the University of Minnesota Press in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. The edition is very limited and each teacher of rural sociology should

take upon himself to see that the Library in his college has a set, in order that it may fall into the hands of people interested in the subject, and not simply be put on the shelf, out of reach of those who wish to use it. The SOURCE BOOK will not be repeated in a generation, nor will there be any competitor. This precaution should not be taken lightly by teachers of rural sociology, but they should see that the funds are raised to put it into their libraries.

Prof. O. D. Duncan, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College has this to say about the SOURCE BOOK:

"To give a complete descriptive appreciation of this book in the space allotted for that purpose is impossible. Suffice it to say, however, that many years are to come and go before this book will have any serious competition, and when others of a similar nature may have been compiled this one will still be the 'Old Trusty' which will be regarded as the ancestral patriarch of them all. No sociologist can afford to try to work where he cannot have the Source Book at his elbow. For the rural sociologist it must be his inseparable companion and guide. To say that it is outstanding or the best that has appeared would be to employ a much worn perfunctory expression. There has never been anything like it."

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A FEW EXCERPTS IN THE THIRD VOLUME OF
THE SYSTEMATIC SOURCE BOOK IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

In the third volume of the SYSTEMATIC SOURCE BOOK IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY will be found more or less full excerpts from the following publications

Vacher de Lapouge: Urban selection and physical traits.

From Georges Vacher de Lapouge, "Sélection économique,"

Les sélections sociales; cours libre de science politique professé à l'Université de Montpellier (1888-1889)

Kohlbrugge: The city and the country as biological worlds.

From J. H. Kohlbrugge, "Stadt und Land als biologische Umwelt,"
Archiv für Rassen und Gesellschafts-Biologie.

Shimberg: An investigation into the validity of intelligence test norms with special reference to urban and rural groups.

Taken from Myra E. Shimberg, an Investigation into the Validity of Norms with Special Reference to Urban and Rural Groups, Archives of Psychology.

Sassenhagen: The mental performance of rural and urban children.

From Robert Sassenhagen: "Ueber geistige Leistungen des Landkindes und des Stadtkindes, "Zietschrift für angewandte Psychologie.

Phear: Standards of living in a village of Bengal, India.

Adapted from Sir John B. Phear, The Aryan Village in India and Ceylon.

Guillou: Historical introduction to rural-urban migrations.

From Jean Guillou, "Étude d'économie rurale et sociale: L'émigration des campagnes vers les villes et ses conséquences économiques et sociales."

Sombart: The causes of migration.

From Werner Sombart, "Das Wirtschaftsleben im Zeitalter des Hochkapitalismus.

Laur, Nater, and Konig: Movement of the rural population compared with that of the city population.

From Mesures propres à lutter contre la dépopulation des communes montagnardes et rurales, a report by Ernst F. Laur, Henry Nater, and Richard Konig.

Ravenstein: The laws of migration.

From E.G.Ravenstein, "The Laws of Migration," Journal of the Royal Statistical Society.

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UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

Activities in rural sociology at the College of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas are divided between research and teaching. In the present college year the Department of Rural Economics and Sociology has issued a bulletin entitled "Farm Standards of Living in Faulkner County, Arkansas," carried on field research in rural social organization in cotton and rice areas in the southern part of the state, and is preparing for publication a similar study made a year ago in Northwestern Arkansas. During this semester, courses are being given in Rural Sociology, The Rural Family, and Community Organization, to sixty-nine students.

T. C. McCormick.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

The work in rural sociology extension in the State of Illinois has expanded until now we are concerned with four problems. Organizational problems concerned with rural group program planning and analysis of local situations to determine types of activity most desired and needed are the phases on which we spend most of our time. Music, dramatics, and recreation have been taking an increasing amount of time, especially in view of the fact that rural people cannot turn to other types of amusement because of the depleted financial resources. The matter of handling poor and unemployment relief is coming to our attention to an increasing extent and we have prepared for assistance along this line. "Suggestions for Handling Poor and Unemployment Relief." Activities for young people out of school on the farms are giving us some concern.

We will have ready to submit to the printer within a short time our research study on social forces affecting rural organization. We also have under way a rural youth study, which has for its objective to determine what 4-H clubs are doing to and for boys and girls. We have used as accurate scientific measures, both sociologically and psychologically, as we are able to secure.

D. E. LINDSTROM.

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IOWA STATE COLLEGE.

Rural social trends and the rural arts received special attention on the program for Farm and Home Week, February 6 to 10. Dr. Edmund deS. Brunner of Columbia University addressed a general convocation on the subject of Rural Social Trends and a faculty group on Education and Social Change.

This is the third year that leading rural dramatics groups were invited to present one-act plays. On this year's program provision was made for presentations by four such groups, Miss Mary Eva Duthie of Cornell University directed a very successful four-day institute for leaders in rural dramatics and addressed the Home Economics section on New Riches in Everyday Life. Miss Fannie R. Buchanan, extension assistant in home and community development, conducted a series of training periods in home recreation, music and story telling.

W.H. Stacy presented a paper, "Cultivated Wealth in Rural America," at the joint meeting of the National Commission on the Enrichment of Adult Life and the Adult Education Department of the National Education Association on February 28 in Minneapolis. This paper included a new classification and summary of the survey of the cultural arts in rural America as developed by the Cultural Arts Survey Committee of the American Country Life Association. Mr. Stacy is also serving as secretary of the Committee on Rural Programs of the National Commission on the Enrichment of Adult Life.

A Rural Social Problems class in recreation and leisure time activities this year features a laboratory period during which members of the class actually make up programs for both campus and off-campus groups and lead or assist in their presentation. This work is done under the direction of the professor as a part of the required laboratory work for which college credit is given. This plan for laboratory work "as arranged" has proven highly successful and will be continued.

RAY E. WAKELEY.

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY.

The Louisiana State University Experiment Station has recently published Bulletin No. 234, entitled, "Farm Trade Centers in Louisiana, 1901 to 1931," by T. Lynn Smith.

More than 150 students are now taking the course in Rural-Urban Sociology offered by Prof. E. H. Lott.

T. LYNN SMITH.

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NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Research and extension work in agricultural economics and rural sociology at the North Dakota Agricultural College heretofore conducted by two separate departments has been consolidated with the college teaching work, forming a single Department of Agricultural Economics. Prof. Cap E. Miller formerly in charge of college instruction is head of the department. Dr. A. H. Benton formerly head of the Research Department of Marketing and Rural Organizations is in charge of research work in marketing and rural finance. E. A. Willson formerly research specialist in rural social organizations in the Department of Marketing and Rural Organizations is in charge of research work in rural sociology and farm management. O. M. Fuller formerly in the Department of Farm Management is Extension Economist.

E.A.Willson, Agricultural Economist (Rural Life Studies) is completing the manuscript for a bulletin on the effect of changing incomes on the farm standard of living. The data were secured from 296 farm business and family living records secured during the period 1923 to 1931 inclusive. Changes from year to year in the average cash income, factors influencing those changes and the effect of changing incomes on family living expenditures are shown. The records have also been sorted according to income groups and the relationship between income and expenditures (both farm and family living shown).

E. A. WILLSON.

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

Dr. C.E.Lively is now engaged in preparing a revised edition of his bulletin, Some Rural Social Agencies in Ohio, which was issued in 1921. The revision will emphasize changes and trends in rural social agencies since 1920.

Dr. E.D.Tetreau has begun a preliminary study of the problem of the migration of wealth to and from the rural districts.

Prof. R.C.Smith has completed the field work in his study of the rural social organization of Fairfield County, Ohio. He is now engaged in the tabulation and analysis of his materials.

Mr. P.G. Beck has completed an analysis of the births in Ohio for the year 1930. Non-resident births were allocated to residence and standardized rates computed. This work was done concurrently with a study of Mortality in Ohio in 1930, by H. F. Dorn, now of the University of Wisconsin. Mr. Beck is now preparing a bulletin on rural population changes and trends in Ohio.

Mr. R. B. Tom, specialist in recreation has been exceptionally busy developing his program of home-made happiness. He has an exhibit of more than 100 homemade games and puzzles. Country people are showing keen interest in his program.

C. E. LIVELY.

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PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE.

Some are raising a question as to whether rural people want assistance in carrying on their own program of recreation and entertainment during this present period.

During the past year when I met with our county committees in each county where this work was carried on, the first question I put to them was, "Do you consider it advisable to do this sort of thing with present economic conditions prevailing?" There wasn't an instance where any considerable number of people felt that it should not be done. In fact, the almost unanimous expression was "Now, of all times." Of course, I am not unmindful that at that kind of meeting you have a selected group of people and the fact that I asked the question might, and probably did, affect their replies. We have seen no decrease in demand for help along this line, however.

W.R.GORDON.

In the field of research we have in progress a study, the aim of which is an effective method of determining the functioning economic and social areas in a county. We are experimenting with three methods: securing the information by (a) the mailed questionnaire. (b) by holding a meeting attended by leaders of all types in the county, with the guidance of whom we outline the communities in the county, and (c) by the research method of house-to-house canvass by a trained field worker. A map is made from data furnished by each of these methods. We shall then compare these maps, using the map constructed from detailed research data as a check for the other two.

W.V.DENNIS.

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

State Collegiate Rural Life Conference. "To awaken interest in the distinctive values or basic elements of country life and to consider ways of stressing these values on the college campus," students from Wisconsin colleges and County Rural Schools will hold a one-day conference at Madison, April 29, 1933. Asher Hobson, formerly of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and J.H.Kolb, head of the Department of Rural Sociology at the University of Wisconsin are the principal speakers.

Lecturer on Play Production. Mary Eva Duthie, Thomas E. Wilson Fellow, who is studying social values of 4-H Club Work, attended Farm and Home Week at Iowa State College in February. She lectured on "New Riches in Everyday Life," "Today's 4-H Club Work Twenty Years From Now," and gave a series of four lectures on Play Production for the Country Theater.

Talks on "Some Foundations for New National Policies." E. L. Kirkpatrick delivered addresses on "Some Foundations for New National Policies for Rural Life" and "Forgotten Farmers (Farm Youth, Ages 15 - 25)" before assemblies and rural life clubs at Western Michigan State Teachers College, Michigan State College, and American Folk School, (Grant, Michigan) March 4, 5, and 6. During April he will give these addresses at Ball State Teachers College, Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College, Berea College, and at different points in West Virginia and Virginia. While in Virginia, Mr. Kirkpatrick will assist with local arrangements for the Student Section, American Country Life Association Conference to be held at Blacksburg, and East Radford, Va., August 1 - 4, 1933.

Farm Family Living Bulletin. Farm Family Living Research Bul. 114, by E.L.Kirkpatrick, P.E.McNall, and May L. Cowles, University of Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is in press. The manuscript for "Growth Cycles of the Farm Family in Relation to Standards of Living" is practically completed and field work for "Ways of Maintaining Standards of Living in the Light of Economic and Social Change" is well under way.

E.L.KIRKPATRICK.

Sixth Annual Wisconsin Rural Drama Festival. Wisconsin's sixth annual state-wide rural drama festival was held this past February 1 - 3 as part of the Farm and Home Week sponsored by the College of Agriculture. This was held as a festival and demonstration of rural drama in Wisconsin, without any contest features. The entire state was divided into three districts, and the plays in the state demonstration were invited in from drama events held in each of the three districts. These plays were "Patchwork Quilt," "This Way Out," "The Bishop's Candlesticks", "Dreams," "Joint Owners in Spain," "Highness," and "Pierrot - His Play." There was no question but that the quality of the performance under this plan, was much superior to the previous tournament plan.

Public Discussion Demonstrations Held. Some very successful demonstrations in public discussion meetings and in debate were held in four counties this year. The topics taken up were concerned with "Taxation in Rural Areas." Two of these counties, Dane and Waushara, selected teams to demonstrate public discussion methods, and the other two, Dunn and Winnebago selected teams to demonstrate debate methods during Farm and Home Week. The success of these demonstrations which were really experiments, particularly with the public discussion team method, exceeded all expectations.

Speaking of these home talents events, drama, music and public discussion, during Farm and Home Week, the Wisconsin director of extension has written the following:

"If we should be forced by economic conditions to abandon Farmers' Week features - the home talent one must be the last to go. Corn and clover and cattle, markets and money and prices - these are but the flesh and blood of agriculture; but music and song and play and discussion are the very soul of it. Let this be our motto: "'America shall not perish for we will save its soul."

A. F. WILEDEN.

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A TRIP ON POPULATION CHANGES.

Dr. T.B.Manny, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life has just returned from a field trip covering 15 States in quest of data and interpretive material for use in connection with the estimate of change in farm population during the past year. He stopped at the field offices of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates in each State, and in addition consulted with officials in the State departments of education, taxation, agriculture, and public welfare, and with members of special State unemployment and relief committees. He also stopped at the Agricultural Colleges in all but one of the States to confer with Extension Directors, county agent leaders, and district agents.

The predominant opinion was to the effect that practically all vacant habitable farmsteads had been reoccupied and in some areas, especially in the South, migrants were trying to develop subsistence farms on cutover land and other idle unimproved acreage. This is in addition to the substantial movement of city unemployed back to the farms of parents relatives, and friends. Future back-to-the-land movements will be increasingly handicapped by lack of occupiable buildings and acreage, according to most of the people who were consulted.

The farmer schedules dealing with farm population changes are now being tabulated and the estimates will be prepared when these tabulations are completed.

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SEEDORF'S RECOGNITION OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

Dr. J.J.Wilh. Seedorf, Director of the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Labor at the University of Gottingen, Gottingen, Germany, who was in America two or three years ago and interested so many in his study of the human factor in farm management, in a letter to Dr. C. J. Galpin, has recently written as follows:

"The work of my Institute expands in increasing proportion into the field of rural sociology, and, moreover, this suits me admirably as long as I am able to keep in touch with your much longer past experience and more searching investigations in this same field."

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RURAL SOCIAL TRENDS.

A book which presents results which have been looked for for some months has just been issued by the McGraw Hill Book Co., Inc., New York City, entitled, RURAL SOCIAL TRENDS. The authors are Dr. J.H. Kolb and Dr. Edmund deS.Brunner. The primary purpose of this volume is to present the results of a study of changes in rural social life in the first three decades of the present century, and especially in the decade 1920 - 1930.

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AN INSTITUTE ON NATIONAL POLICIES
AFFECTING RURAL LIFE.

There will be an institute on National Policies Affecting Rural Life under the auspices of the American Country Life Association, in cooperation with the Virginia Institute of Rural Affairs, to be held at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Va., August 1 - 4, 1933.

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TOWN-COUNTRY TRADE RELATIONS.

The South Dakota Experiment Station cooperating with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life has just issued a study by Paul H.Landis, entitled, "Town-Country Trade Relations, 1901-1931." Mr. Landis finds that the farmer can, within limits choose his town and in so doing make or break the home town to a degree that was not possible previously. If he wants small towns he can have them only by giving them his patronage. In the absence of his patronage the small trade center is likely to disappear.

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TWO EDUCATIONAL VALUES THAT COME
TO THE 4-H CLUB MEMBER.

An extract from C.J.Galpin's radio talk to the 4-H Club Boys and Girls on February 4, 1933.

"A real education teaches boys and girls two things at least, and I am going to speak, just a few moments, about these two things. The first is the ability to construct something of value - to do something which will serve the world in which one lives, to make something which possibly would not have been made by any one else, in fact, a real education should be constructive and aim toward a piece of workmanship nearing perfection like a piece of art.

"I have reference here to such homely and ordinary matters of every-day life as bread, and corn, and calves, and chickens, and dresses, and fruit - in fact, any of the very well-known tasks on the farm, either out on the land or in the household. The 4-H club ideal is the construction of bread after a pattern of perfection; an acre of corn, after a type of the most perfect corn known, a pure-bred calf, which can claim a good inheritance, in fact, the construction of everything that is made according to the best that is known in the making or breeding of such useful things. The ideal of the perfect is precisely the ideal of the artist in the fine arts and should be so recognized by the boy and girl in 4-H club work. They are artists in ordinary life, constructing not only perfect things and so things of beauty, but things of great use to the whomsoever into whose hands these things may finally fall. This making things for the whomsoever is generally recognized as the highest form of service approaching in its quality the objectives of religion itself.

The second thing which a real education does is to help a boy and girl set a pace for himself as a man, or herself as a woman in the matter of not only doing something in the world but of living worthily as a piece of the world in which one lives and it is always possible that the boy and girl may achieve as a child or youth a standard of excellence which they can never surpass as a man or woman."

A CONFERENCE ON RURAL SERVICE IN EAST CHINA

Mr. C.W.Chang writing from the University of Nanking states that "on January 18 to 20th, there was held at our college at Nanking, the first annual conference of the East China Rural Service Union, composed of about 20 organizations that are now carrying on some kind of rural reconstruction work in the eastern part of China. At this conference some designated organizations will make special reports of their work, followed by a discussion. Then, in light of the reports and discussions, draw some principles underlying a successful reconstruction work and draw up a working program for such."

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A COLLEGE FOR RURAL WORKERS IN ENGLAND.

Avoncroft is the name of a college for rural workers situated at Offenham, in the Vale of Evesham. It was started seven years ago as a sister college to Fircroft (a college for working men at Bournville) by the Fircroft Trustees in order that rural workers might have the benefits of a year's training at a college specially suited to their requirements. Three of the Fircroft Trustees visited Denmark in 1924 and were so impressed with the general educational level of the Danish farmer, and his intelligent grasp of modern problems, especially in the realm of cooperative factories and marketing, that they felt a start should be made in this country with education on similar lines so that British agriculture should be in a better position to face world competition. They discovered that underlying the Danish spirit of cooperation was a deep love of the country, and that an education of a wide cultural nature opened the minds of the countryman to the best thoughts and achievements of the world at large.

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RURAL DEPOPULATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

The South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station of the Clemson Agricultural College in January printed a bulletin containing a study made by Dr.Wilson Gee in his old home county, entitled, The Qualitative Nature of Rural Depopulation in Santuc Township, South Carolina, 1900-1930. Dr. Gee says in his bulletin that while the conclusion is inescapable, that the township has suffered severely in the absolute and proportionate losses of its best people, there are partly compensating tendencies accompanying the process which, though they cannot be expected to restore the former level of its population composition, will preserve it to a continued wholesome functioning.

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FARMER'S COTTON ACREAGE.

A study of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life by Dr. T.B.Manny, in the summer of 1931, on the sociological and psychological factors in the production of cotton acreage in the South has just been issued in bulletin form under the title, "Farmer Opinions and Other Factors Influencing Cotton Production and Acreage Adjustments in the South."

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VARIATIONS IN THE HUMAN FACTORS AFFECTING FARMING.

It is interesting to rural sociologists to notice that rural economists have begun to study the relations of the human factor to farm management. An evidence of this, perhaps the first in this country, by the University of Minnesota, in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is entitled, "Relation of Variations in the Human Factor to Financial Returns in Farming." The authors are Mr. W.W.Wilcox of the Division of Farm Management of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Professors Andrew Boss and George A. Pond of the Division of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota.

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THE SMALL CITY AND ITS RURAL AREA.

The Bureau of the Census has issued a bulletin which rural sociologists will wish to look into for suggestions on their own studies in this field. The publication entitled, Small City and Rural Trade Series: Analyzing the Small City and Rural Market Area, presents statistics gathered in the nation-wide Census of Distribution in 1930 covering operations for the year 1929.

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FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 1, 1933.

Vol. VII, No. 3.

RURAL LIFE RESEARCH RECOGNIZED AT THE 50th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE WISCONSIN EXPERIMENT STATION.

Rural Sociology was given a prominent place in the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, June 3, 1933. In the program of activities of a sociological nature, Dr. J. H. Kolb spoke as follows:

Research in the social phases of agriculture at Wisconsin early took the form of analysis of the group organization of rural society. It might have considered the social nature of the farmer himself, but instead, it studied the social relationships of the farmer with his neighbors and with the rest of society. This form of research has followed three main lines of inquiry; first, the nature, characteristics and functions of country neighborhood or primary social groups; second, the form and functions of town and country relationships; third, the nature and characteristics of special interest groups and organizations in rural society.

The real pioneer work in this whole field of rural social relations was done by Dr. C. J. Galpin. His contribution to both content and method of social research is readily recognized in the rural as well as in the general field of sociology. The publication of his study of town and country relations in Walworth County in 1915 entitled, "The Social Anatomy of an Agricultural Community," was really the beginning of what has come to

be known as human ecology. Many studies along similar lines of method have since been made, including those of the ecological areas of the city of Chicago, by sociologists of the University of Chicago under the leadership of Dr. Robert E. Park.

According to Dr. Galpin's own statement, the idea of this original study went back to his experiences and studies of Belleville, Jefferson County, New York, while he was teaching in the academy there. He undertook a survey of the surrounding agricultural country, tributary to Belleville. In reporting the study before the first Wisconsin Rural Life Conference in February, 1911, he said:

"This stretch of land impressed me with its solid social front, with its variety of social activities, with its real progress made by the voluntary association of many small amounts of surplus labor and capital, and I decided to map the social topography of this whole community, at least as far as it was definitely organized, in order that I might discover the clue to its solidarity."

The beginnings of the idea of spatial relationships of social phenomena can therefore be seen in this early Belleville study, but the conception and the technique were actually perfected in the Walworth County study. It was the publication of the striking maps showing the "rurban" or town-country relationships which challenged the attention of social scientists.

This pioneer study, initiated in 1911, was followed by other analyses in other parts of the state, of town and country interdependencies, including social institutions and the extent and reasons for farm people participating in the town or village service agencies and organizations. (Service Relations of Town and Country, Research Bulletin 58, 1923, and Service Institutions of Town and Country, Research Bulletin 66, 1925).

More recently, a careful study of social changes and trends was made in Walworth County as a part of a national study known as the President's Committee on Recent Social Trends. The original study was made the basis for comparison, and the period under observation was the 16 years between 1913 and 1929. The results indicate that tendencies discerned in the early project have gone on with few major modifications, until it can be said that a larger rural community made of town and country is emerging as an important group in rural society.

It was evident almost from the first that within the community of town and country there were and still are, other smaller, more personal and primary social groups. Such groups go back in origin to the settlement days of neighborhoods when nationality, kinship, religion, common interests and the natural factor of topography were important in group formation.

The role of neighborhood groups in social control, in social attitudes, in character building, and in the class consciousness of rural, especially farm people, has been very great. In fact, the character of rural society can hardly be understood apart from some knowledge of its intimate or face-to-face groups.

The first study of this kind was in Dane County (Rural Primary Groups, Research Bulletin 51, 1921). A more recent study covering the ten-year period, 1921 to 1931, made in the same county by the same person, reveals that country neighborhoods tend to persist. This finding is confirmed by the larger national study of rural social trends to which reference has been made.

The neighborhood groups are not so self-sufficient socially, economically, or religiously, as they once were. Memberships in local organizations are not so limited by the bounds of the locality, yet country people persist in controlling as their own, service institutions and agencies as church, school, marketing agencies or processing plants, organizations for sociability and culture, as clubs and organizations for recreation, music, dramatics or discussion.

It was this tendency toward organization about poles of special interest which led to the third line of inquiry outlined above. (Special Interest Groups in Rural Society, Research Bulletin 84, 1929). Some of the interests about which country people tend to organize are social enjoyment, better farming, helping the local school, improving the business of farming, young people's interests, health and social welfare, and civic affairs.

Questions of the use of home talent, the need for training of local leaders, and the importance of planned programs of work came to the fore in this study and soon became the basis for extension work in rural areas.

The studies of locality groups and of interest groups in rural society led directly to a consideration of the family. Families, after all, are groups of personalities, bound together by very strong ties. The ties, however, are not fastened merely within the family, but they reach into society in many forms. Therefore, the rural family and its members in relation to rural organizations of various kinds, became a project for research in 1928. (Rural Organizations and the Farm Family, Research Bulletin 96, 1929).

In times of rapid changes and violent adjustments, not only the economic security but the social stability and solidarity of the family itself are threatened. In a sample of 900 families covering each of the major farm-type areas of the state, a study was made of family income, living expenditures, and member participation in community activities. (Farm Family Living in Wisconsin, Research Bulletin 114, 1933). Comparisons are now being made with some of these same families to find out the changes and adjustments which have taken place during the years of stress, 1928 to 1932.

From the studies it is evident that standards of living follow different cycles and move at different tempos than do cycles of farm income. Standards of living are dependent upon the general cultural and traditional background as well as upon the education of people. They fluctuate less quickly and less violently with change in economic conditions than does income. Furthermore, farm families as other families tend to hold to certain cultural standards of living with a tenacity that is second only to preservation of life itself. Therefore, in times such as these, it becomes very important to furnish factual material to farm families in order that they may understand their situation and adjust themselves to it, both on a short-time as well as a long-time basis. Some families undoubtedly need to give even more attention to ways of increasing the income; others to making greater use of the various goods and services which the farm can be made to furnish; others to a wiser use of leisure time, and still others to ways and means of further organizing and utilizing local resources to better advantage in an effort to maintain satisfactory living in both home and community.

It is equally obvious that there are certain standards below which, from the standpoint of public policy, rural families should not be allowed to go. With such extreme reductions come the danger to public health, the burden of poor relief, and even the menace of juvenile delinquency and neglect. Such matters as standards of living also have a very real relation to questions of land utilization and to taxation policies.

STORRS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

Dr. J. L. Hypes is to teach in the State Board of Education Summer School at Yale University. Dr. Hypes has been appointed a member of an investigational committee on International Rural Life Affairs of the American Country Life Association and a similar committee of the American Sociological Society. The Laymen's Foreign Missions Inquiry Report on India and Burma has just come from press. The title of Dr. Hypes' section of this report is, "Backgrounds of Christian Mission Work in Village India. He has also prepared a chapter for a book recently brought out by the American Geographical Society, the New England Prospect, 1933, entitled, "Recent Immigrant Stocks in New England Agriculture."

Dr. Nathan L. Whetten, a recent Ph.D. graduate of Harvard University, joined the Department last October. Dr. Whetten was appointed for the ensuing year, a member of the Committee on the Teaching of Rural Sociology of the American Sociological Society.

The bulletin "Connecticut Rural Youth and Farming Occupations," will come off the press about the middle of this month. The field work on the recreational study has been completed. Work has been started on the preparation of the report on the population mobility study which has been held over for some time.

Through the efforts of the Sociology Department at this College, a special rural church section will be included in the Farmers' Week Program. This will be the second time the rural churches, in an organized way, have participated in the Farmers' Week program here.

J. L. HYPES.

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CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Mr. A.M. Paxson received the Ph.D. degree in February. His dissertation is on "The Relationship of the Open-Country Population of Onondaga County, New York, to the Villages and Cities" and is being published as a bulletin of the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station.

Mr. W.H. Wiser, co-author of "Behind Mud Walls" received the Ph.D. in June, with a dissertation entitled, "Social Institutions of a Hindu Village in North India."

Chi-Ming-Chiao, of the University of Nanking, who is known for his studies of rural community areas in China, received the M.S. degree in June, with a dissertation on "Rural Population and Vital Statistics for Selected Areas of China, 1929-1931.

Mildred B. Thurow, Leland B. Tate, and Howard W. Beers are completing their work for the doctor's degree during the summer.

Three bulletins are now in press and will be published shortly: No. 555, The Relation of Community Areas to Town Government in the State of New York, by Chester R. Wasson and Dwight Sanderson; No. 559, The Social and Economic Areas of Broome County, New York, by Dwight Sanderson; and No. 560, The Income, Savings and Work of Boys and Girls on the Farms in New York State, 1930, by Howard W. Beers.

Two other bulletins in the series of county studies of socio-economic areas are in process of publication: Wayne County, by Dr. Harold C. Hoffsommer; and Genesee County, by Dr. E.A. Taylor.

The Department has recently moved into the new Agricultural Economics Building, where it has half of the third floor, including three recitation rooms, seminar room, and 12 office rooms, all newly equipped.

A new research project has just been commenced on "The Interests, Activities and Problems of Rural Young People, as a Basis for Extension Programs." It is in charge of Dr. W.A. Anderson, and the field work for the first part of the study is being made by Mr. Willis Kerns.

DWIGHT SANDERSON.

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

Dr. C.E. Lively has completed a bulletin entitled, "Some Rural Social Agencies in Ohio: A Study of Trends, 1921 to 1931." This is a revision of a bulletin of the same title published in 1921. It deals with the status of rural organizations in Ohio in 1931 and the changes that have occurred during the previous ten years.

Dr. E.D. Tetreau is studying the migration of rural wealth to the urban districts. He has made an analysis of 400 rural estates probated during the period 1920 to 1930 in two Ohio counties. A substantial migration is evident in the results. Field work has been limited to areas near to Columbus because of the budgetary situation.

July 1, 1933.

F.P.R.L. Activities.

7.

Mr. R.C. Smith is completing an analysis of the role of the farm trade center in the scheme of rural organization in Fairfield County, Ohio.

Mr. P. G. Beck, will have completed by July 1st, a bulletin showing rural population changes and trends, especially in recent years. Population analysis in relation to the present situation in Ohio appears to be unusually valuable.

Mr. R.B. Tom, extension specialist, reports an unprecedented demand for home-made recreation, assistance in the organization of better meetings, etc. He finds it utterly impossible to meet all demands for his service. The annual School of Methods for Grange Lecturers, conducted by Mr. Tom, was attended by more than 100 Grange officers.

C.E. Lively.

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UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE.

C. E. Gatlin, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Tennessee Junior College, Martin, Tennessee, is spending the summer doing research in rural sociology at the University of Tennessee.

Maynard M. Reed is engaged on a study of churches and affiliated organizations in Tennessee.

C.E. Allred, has recently been making a study of social and educational conditions and manufacturing and non-manufacturing counties of Tennessee.

S.W. Atkins is at present engaged on a study of farm homes in Tennessee.

J. L. Anderson is studying the development of rural tourist camps, tourist homes and the like.

W.P. Cotton is making an inventory of the cultural aspects of plants and animal life.

C.E. Allred.

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VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE.

The Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Rural Sociology Division, has just sent two bulletins to the press: "Negro Organizations and Leadership in Relation to Rural Life in Virginia"; and "Virginia County Conditions

and Trends of Social Significance." The former was prepared by J. M. Ellison of the Virginia State College for Negroes, who has been on the Experiment Station research staff on one-half time basis for several years. For the past year Professor Ellison has been on leave of absence for graduate work. He has just received his Ph.D. degree. His bulletin is the first number in the series of leadership studies and the sixth in our series of rural organization studies.

The "County Condition Trends Study" is the first of several community studies to be published during the summer and the seventh in the organizational series. It is intended to form a basis for more definite local social planning.

The Rural Sociology research program for the next year contemplates continuing with the community studies, and going forward with the studies in leadership and the work on Educational Foundations for Cooperative Effort, which is being done in cooperation with the curriculum revision program of the State Department of Education.

Prospects for a fourth rural ministers summer school are good. This will be held at the same time as the meeting of the American Country Life Association. A number of other organizations also meet at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute during this period.

W.E.GARNETT.

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Wisconsin Collegiate Country Life Conference. The first Wisconsin Collegiate Rural Life Conference was held at the University of Wisconsin under the auspices of the Blue Shield, Euthenics, and 4-H Clubs, April 29, 1933.

It was participated in by students from the University of Wisconsin; Eau Claire, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Platteville, and Oshkosh State Teachers Colleges; Columbia and Fond du Lac County Rural Normal Training Schools and Dunn County School of Agriculture.

It emphasized the importance of rural life to the nation and the responsibilities of college and normal trained leaders in giving rural life its rightful place in national life.

It created sentiment for a similar conference in 1934 and resulted in a tentative plan for representation at the National Conference of the American Country Life Association at East Radford and Blacksburg, Virginia, August 1 to 4, 1933.

It is noteworthy that Michigan students held a similar conference at the State College at East Lansing, also on April 29. This was attended by 175 delegates representing a dozen colleges and county normal training schools. "Program great success. Banquet grand. Entertainment superb. Party till midnight." describes the Michigan event in the words of Ernest Burnham who was in attendance from Western Michigan State Teachers College.

Rural Sociology Majors. Harold F. Dorn (Cornell University) and Ide P. Trotter (University of Missouri) completed requirements for the doctorate in June. Mr. Dorn studied "Differential Rural-Urban Mortality in Ohio, 1930" and Mr. Trotter "Individual and Group Behavior of Farmers as Influenced by Certain Methods of Soils and Crops Extension Teaching." Mr. Dorn will continue study at the University of Chicago, London, and Harvard on a Social Science Research Fellowship. Mr. Trotter is extension specialist in agronomy at the University of Missouri.

Dewees Runk (University of Virginia) and Benjamin F. Wood (Kansas University) successfully passed the preliminaries for the doctorate and will continue at the University of Wisconsin next year.

Carl F. Kraenzel (University of Minnesota and Harvard) and Olaf F. Larson (University of Wisconsin) will pursue studies on university fellowships in rural sociology.

Rural Social Trends Course. J. H. Kolb will offer a summer session course in Rural Social Trends, based on findings of the Committee of which he was a member. The course includes changing population characteristics, village growth, and country-village and rural-urban relationships. It will deal with problems of practical import for agricultural extension workers, and with business, school and church people as well as students of society.

Rural Leadership School. The twelfth annual rural leadership summer school will convene at the College of Agriculture, June 27 to July 7. Among the lecturers and discussion leaders are E. L. Kirkpatrick, J. C. Colbert, Kimball Young, and Helen Clarke, Department of Sociology of the University, Harry C. Monroe, International Council of Religious Education, and Benson Y. Landis, American Country Life Association. Afternoon sessions will take the form of round table conferences and rural recreation.

Presents Paper on Farm Family. E. L. Kirkpatrick will present a paper on "Some Functional Aspects of the Farm Family" at the joint meeting of the American Sociological Society and Social Science Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Chicago, June 26-29.

Rural Sociological Research. At the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, June 3, Dr. J. H. Kolb, in the program of activities of a sociological nature, reviewed the work of Dr. C. J. Galpin while at the University of Wisconsin, and its bearing on present-day research and extension activities. E. L. Kirkpatrick reported tentative results of this year's research on how farm families are meeting the, emergency and A. F. Wileden outlined ways in which research is serving as a basis for the extension program.

Summer Plans in Music and Recreation now being Drawn. Summer music and recreation plans are now being formulated in Wisconsin. In cooperation with the State Fair Board, plans are being made for more and more home talent activities at the Wisconsin State Fair. This includes playground baseball where about 500 rural players from over the state will play off individual and championship series of games before state fair crowds. It includes a little theatre where several days will be devoted to music in its numerous forms, and to drama to provide entertainment and expression for state fair goers.

E.L.KIRKPARTICK,

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STUDENT SECTION OF THE AMERICAN
COUNTRY LIFE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE.

The Student Section of the American Country Life Association Annual Conference will be held at State Teachers College, East Radford, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia. August 1 to 4. It will be conducted by the discussion method on the topic "The Nation and Its Rural Life."

Among the student discussion and other leaders participating are Hazel Probst and Gypsy Smith, State Teachers College; James Marshall, University of Tennessee; Mildred Almstedt, Cornell University; Donald Bishoff, Shepherd College; Joe Knappenberger, K.S.A.C.; Clara Austin, Iowa State College; Stanley Hore, Platteville State Teachers College; Donald Rowe, University of Wisconsin; Bessie Schreiner, Western Illinois State Teachers College; and Garnett Protzman, West Virginia University.

Among adult speakers invited to address the Student Section are Secretary Wallace, O. E. Baker, Warren H. Wilson, K. L. Butterfield, Allen Eaton, A. R. Mann, Asher Hobson, and H. C. Taylor.

As of last year the Association will offer limited assistance to Collegiate Clubs desiring to send delegates. Those interested should write E. L. Kirkpatrick, University of Wisconsin, for further information.

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LARGEST NUMBER OF PERSONS ON FARMS
IN 1932 IN HISTORY OF COUNTRY.

The high lights of the Bureau's annual estimate of the change in the number of persons living on farms were discussed by Dr. C. J. Galpin, in charge of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, in a radio broadcast on April 20, given as a part of the Department's regular Farm and Home-Hour program at noon over Station WMAL. Doctor Galpin's address, entitled, "Farm Population Reaches New High Record", included the following interesting facts:

"The number of persons living on farms in the United States on January 1, 1933, is estimated at 32,242,000. This is the largest number in the history of our country. During 1932, there was a net gain in the number of persons living on farms of just over one million. This, too, is the largest single-year gain recorded by these annual estimates. In fact, substantial losses in farm population occurred practically every year from 1910 to 1930. But in just three years since January 1, 1930, all of these previous decreases in number of persons living on farms have been more than overcome.

"***During 1932, 533,000 more persons moved from cities out to farms than moved from farms to cities. This is more than double the corresponding gain in 1931. The rest of the 1932 increase came from the surplus of births over deaths on farms.

"But I have yet to tell you the two most important things about these farm population changes for 1932. The first is that compared with 1931, 458,000 fewer people left farms for cities. I suspect that most of this large falling off was due to the fact that many farm young people could not find jobs in towns and cities. Now the people leaving farms for cities are chiefly those retiring because of age or sickness, and those forced to leave by farm foreclosures.

"The second very important thing about the 1932 changes in farm population is the fact that 139,000 fewer urbanites moved on to farms last year than moved on during 1931. This seems to be the opposite of what many people predicted. The slackening up, however, is the result of several recent influences. For example, it is getting harder and harder to find vacant habitable buildings in farming communities. We have had numerous reports of late which state that practically every habitable shack in farming communities is now occupied. Most of the city unemployed who had farm homes open to them have already moved to these places while many of the unemployed remaining in the city do not have such havens of refuge available to them. A third reason for the slowing up of the back-to-the farm movement seems to be the subsistence gardening projects provided by cities and towns for their unemployed. Where a plot of ground, seeds.

equipment, and fertilizer are furnished by the relief agencies and unemployed families are permitted to remain in their city abodes, subsistence gardening in rural areas on very poor or abandoned lands, living in tumble down shacks or log cabins, and working without equipment save that borrowed from generous farmer neighbors, loses its appeal."

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DEAN CHRISTENSEN ON THE HUMAN
ELEMENT IN COUNTRY LIFE.

In an address given at the first Wisconsin Collegiate Rural Life Conference held at the University of Wisconsin under the auspices of the Blue Shield, Euthenics, and 4-H Clubs, April 29, 1933, Dean Christensen said:

"Our greatest rural problem is that which we have omitted in the past - the human element. The struggles, strikes and movements coming from our rural areas have something at the root which should challenge everyone in America interested in rural people and the future of the entire country."

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RURAL SOCIOLOGY AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

At the special meeting of the American Sociological Society in connection with the Chicago World's Fair, June 26-29, 1933, two round tables were held in Rural Sociology, with Dr. Dwight Sanderson, Cornell University, as Chairman. The topics discussed were as follows:

The Sociology of the Farm Family.

"The Sociological Analysis of the Farm Family," Dwight Sanderson,
Cornell University.

"The Financial Analysis of the Farm Family," E. L. Kirkpatrick,
University of Wisconsin.

"Autobiographical Case Studies of Farm Families," Charles E.
Lively, Ohio State University.

The Effect of Direct Action Movements on Farmers' Organizations.

"The Theoretical Aspects of the Problem" C. C. Taylor, Raleigh,
N. C.

"How to Study the Sociology of Direct Action Farmers' Movements,"
E. D. Tetreau, Ohio State University.

"How to Study the Effects on Farmers' Organizations," Ray E.
Wakeley, Iowa State College.

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RESEARCH PROJECT IN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AND FARM TAXATION.

Shortly after the middle of April, the Divisions of Farm Finance and Taxation and Farm Population and Rural Life of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in cooperation with the University of Kentucky, began field work on a study of farm taxation and local governmental reorganization in Crittenden and Livingston Counties, Kentucky.

The objective of the study is "to determine the extent to which farm taxes in Kentucky may be reasonably reduced and the effectiveness of local government may be maintained or increased by consolidation and reorganization of such government. The field work includes the gathering of data on amounts and sources of revenue used by local government, expenditures by functions, and on farm tax rates; the interviewing of local people concerning the functioning of the existing local governments, and the analyzing of present administrative areas in local governments, as these relate to present areas of local trade and commerce for the farm people."

Dr. T. B. Manny and Dr. B. W. Allin will do the field work for the Bureau and Mr. C. J. Bradley will represent the University of Kentucky in this project.

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A RECENT LEPLAY HOUSE
DISCUSSION MEETING.

At a discussion meeting held at the Institute of Sociology, London, England, Mr. Geoffrey Clark, read a paper entitled, "Towards a National Plan: The Urban and Rural Antithesis." This paper is reproduced in the January-April issue of The Sociological Review.

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RURAL SOCIOLOGY VALUED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

Dr. E. Chalupny at the annual meeting of the Czechoslovakia Academy of Agriculture outlined some fundamental working tasks of rural sociology resulting from historical evolution and from the nature of the Czechoslovakian peasant.

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A CHINESE SOCIOLOGICAL BULLETIN
IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

"The Chinese Sociological Bulletin" Vol. I, No. 1, issued March, 1933, is "the English Edition of the Chinese Journal of Sociology," which is "the oldest Sociological Journal published in the Chinese language." It treats of the future of social science in China, with abstracts of articles on "The Aim, History, and Sphere of the Chinese Sociological Movement," "Four Stages in the Historical Development of Chinese Sociology," "Social Service Activities in Japan," "An Investigation of Social Distance," etc.

"Fourteen universities in China are known to have departments of sociology. In addition to these, practically all the colleges and universities are also offering one or more courses in this field. The teaching material in the sociological courses in the Chinese universities is still mostly of foreign origin. American textbooks are becoming quite popular in China."

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NEW LIST OF PUBLICATIONS PERTAINING
TO FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE.

A new list of publications of research studies made by the Division or in cooperation with the Division has been issued as of June, 1933. This list includes Department publications; publications issued by colleges in cooperation with this Division, and mimeographed reports and addresses. A list is also given of manuscripts completed or nearing completion.

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DENNIS' NEW BULLETIN ON SOCIAL
ACTIVITIES OF THE FAMILIES OF CHESTER COUNTY.

W.V.Dennis is the author of a recent bulletin entitled "Social Activities of the Families in the Unionville District, Chester County, Pennsylvania," Bulletin 286, April, 1933. The study was made in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. The bulletin states that a large proportion of the social contacts of both the adults and the young people were made outside of the four townships of the Unionville area. This was due in part to the existence of several trade and commercial recreation centers easily accessible to all families. Both the adults and the youth in the families of farm tenants and laborers had very little share in the organized social life of the community. The number of organizations for young people was small, and their enrollment was recruited mostly from the families of farm owners.

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FARM FAMILY LIVING IN WISCONSIN.

Research Bulletin 114 of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Wisconsin is just off the press. E. L. Kirkpatrick, P. E. McNall and May L. Cowles, are the authors. The Division of Farm Population and Rural Life cooperated in this study, which deals with family living in relation to income and other selected factors which influence it. The purpose was to ascertain the relation of these factors to family living and to throw light on certain specific questions pertaining to the agricultural situation in Wisconsin. The families, 900 in number, live in selected localities representing the six major type-of-farming areas of Wisconsin. They are situated in Walworth, Green, Dane, Portage, Dunn, Langlade and Sawyer Counties. Supplementary tables for Research Bulletin 114 are available in Stencil Bulletin, April, 1933.

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A HOUSING BULLETIN FROM MARYLAND.

"Housing Conditions in Relation to Farm Labor Turnover," Bulletin 341, by Margaret Coffin, has recently been published by the University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station. This is a study of 1090 farm houses in five counties in Maryland, representing the various sections of the State. The survey shows that housing conditions on Maryland farms are on the average quite satisfactory and the standards relatively good. The character of the housing on the farm will exert a beneficial influence on the permanency of tenure, the profits from the farm and in making a satisfied and contented farm population.

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DUNCAN AND SANDER'S STUDY OF
OKLAHOMA COTTON FARMERS.

Experiment Station Bulletin No. 211 entitled "A Study of Certain Economic Factors in Relation to Social Life Among Oklahoma Cotton Farmers" was issued in April, 1933. The bulletin states that cotton farming in Oklahoma, as in other cotton states, is closely related to a high percentage of non-owner farmers. Rural social problems in Oklahoma are intimately tied up in the cotton situation. Generally, with increases in the economic, cultural, and social status of farm families, greater relative and absolute amounts of the spendable income go for each factor in the living budget.

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FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
JUL 1 1933

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 1, 1933.

Vol. VII, No. 4.

RURAL LIFE CLUBS TO COMMEMORATE ROOSEVELT'S COUNTRY LIFE COMMISSION.

Rural life clubs and classes in rural sociology in the various colleges and universities will take the lead in outlining the newer needs of rural life in relation to national life during the coming school year, according to a decision reached at the Student Section, American Country Life Association at East Radford and Blacksburg, Virginia, August 1 - 4.

The program of work will take the form of a commemoration of the Theodore Roosevelt Country Life Commission, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Commission. Briefly the activities will consist of rural life meetings or conferences, preferably at the state agricultural colleges, and open to students from other institutions including universities, colleges, teacher training schools and theological seminaries in each state. The schedule of study will include contributions from the Roosevelt Commission Report and will center on objectives for new state programs for the betterment of rural life.

Where it is not possible to hold state conferences, clubs and classes in a particular college having rural life interests will try to stage a Rural Life Day at their own institution. This may reach only the faculty and student body of the college, or it may reach also local people of the area immediately surrounding the college. State teachers colleges which are already holding Rural Progress Days will embody the idea in their programs. Other colleges undoubtedly will be able to accomplish worthwhile results through special days at their institutions as means of arousing study and faculty interest in rural affairs.

To give momentum to the commemoration idea and thus to extend the rural life movement in colleges and secondary schools, collegiate clubs will emphasize in their programs, reading and classroom work throughout

the year, the contributions of the Roosevelt Commission Report and the needed objectives of state and national programs for rural betterment. It is hoped that club sponsors and teachers of rural sociology and allied subjects in the different colleges will take an active part in carrying out the plans of commemorating the work of the Commission. The goal or ideal back of the plan is twenty-five state conferences at the colleges.

Further suggestions and particulars may be obtained by writing to Neil Bolton, University 4-H Club, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia; Helen Gitchell, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, or B.Y.Landis, 105 East Twenty-second Street, New York City.

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STUDENT SECTION, AMERICAN COUNTRY LIFE
ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, AT EAST RADFORD.

One hundred and thirty delegates from thirty-eight collegiate and nine non-collegiate rural life clubs attended the Annual Conference of the Student Section, of the American Country Life Association at East Radford, and Blacksburg, Virginia, August 1 - 4. The collegiate clubs represented twenty-nine colleges and universities and the non-collegiate clubs were from ten counties in Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. Most of the non-collegiate club delegates are in college during the year.

Discussion sessions directed by student leaders made up a large part of the program. All the sessions were summarized under the direction of James Ward, Jr., of the University of Virginia.

At the business session held August 4, the Student Section elected the following officers for the year 1933 and 1934: President, Neil Bolton, University of West Virginia; Vice-Presidents, Gipsy Smith, State Teachers College, East Radford, Virginia, Mildred Almstedt, Cornell University, Ferdinand Basting, Illinois State Normal University; Secretary, Paul Rose, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Editor, Howard Moreen, Kansas State College.

By way of summary, it seems that the students accomplished three worthwhile things at this conference.

1. A careful enumeration or cataloging of the contributions of rural communities, that is farm life, to national life.

2. The recognition of problems arising out of the present situation with respect to these contributions.

3. The formulation of specific suggestions as to what college students can do to help solve these problems.

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DR. YOUNGBLOOD REPORTS ON RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

In the Annual Report of the Agricultural Experiment Station for 1932, Dr. Youngblood makes a very favorable statement on the research in rural sociology among the experiment stations. He says:

"Fifty-three station projects in rural sociology were active during the year, 17 more than in the previous year. Of these, 7 dealt with rural population, 10 with standards of living, 3 with rural institutions, 10 with farm organizations, 10 with communities, 5 with rural-urban relations, 2 with rural social psychological problems, 5 with rural social pathological problems, and 1 unclassified. In this field the major emphasis is on rural groups, organizations and institutions, and standards of living.

"Considering the fact that rural-life research is in its formative stage of development, noteworthy progress is being made in this field. The specialists in rural life are making satisfactory progress in improving research methods; by a process of elimination they are selecting for study problems of distinctive importance to rural welfare; they are retaining their respective viewpoints and at the same time are cooperating with the natural-science and economic groups. These specialists have exceptional opportunities to make helpful contributions to rural welfare and to aid in solving some of the more acute national problems.

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RURAL SECTION OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Society will be held in Philadelphia, December 27 - 30, with headquarters at the Hotel Adelphia. The program of the Rural Section is organized around the topic, "Race and Culture as Factors in Social Organization." Prof. Ernest Burnham, Western State Teachers College, will preside at the meeting of this Section on December 27, and Prof. Carle C. Zimmerman, Harvard University, will preside at the meeting on December 29, which will be followed by a business meeting of the Section. The Joint Luncheon Session of the Section on Rural Sociology and the American Farm Economic Association, will be held December 28, with Prof. H. R. Tolley, University of California, presiding.

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FOURTH PURNELL CONFERENCE OF RESEARCH
WORKERS IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

The Fourth Purnell Conference of Research Workers in Rural Sociology will be held in Philadelphia, December 26 - 28, 1933. The following is the

tentative program:

Tuesday Afternoon and Evening, December 26.

Conference on the Place of Rural Sociology in a Program of Research in Land Utilization.

Papers: (30 minutes each)

- a. From the Standpoint of Population - Wilson Gee.
- b. From the Standpoint of the Family - W. A. Anderson.
- c. From the Standpoint of Social Organization - E.A. Willson.

Discussion.

Wednesday Evening, December 27.

Conference on Statistical Method in Rural Sociological Research.

Main Paper: (40 minutes) "The Nature and Use of the Scientific Inference in Statistical Investigation." - Samuel Stauffer.

Supplementary papers: (20 minutes each)

- a. Critical Examination of the Use of the Statistical Inference in Rural Population Studies - B.L. Melvin.
- b. Critical Examination of the Use of Statistical Inference in Rural Family Studies - C. A. Anderson.
- c. Critical Examination of the Use of Statistical Inference in Rural Organization Studies - R. W. Murchie.

Thursday Evening, December 28.

Report of the Special Committee on Project Outline for Research in the Field of Rural Youth, 15 to 25 Years of Age - H. J. Burt.

Odds and Ends Forum -

Summarization of Conference on Land Utilization (15 minutes) -
J. H. Kolb

Summarization of Conference on Statistical Method (15 minutes) -
Read Bain

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA.

President H. L. Shantz has recently appointed Prof. A. B. Ballantyne, as Specialist in Rural Sociology, from the Extension Service. He has been in extension work a total of 19 years. His vocation is to unearth the sociological problems among the rural people of Arizona. Prof. Ballantyne writes as follows about his work:

"This work is just beginning here. One phase that is receiving attention is the type of program which is being fostered by different social rural organizations. Just now the Farm Bureau is the center of attention. This is the official organization through which the Agricultural Extension Work is done. It operates in 12 counties, in four of which there are live locals which have some sort of continuing activities. These active locals are being contacted and a study made of their types of programs. This study, so far, indicates that the program is almost invariably made up of the following: Widely advertised speaker, reports of acting committees, and eats. The subjects which the speakers treat are always of immediate interest and the reports given by committees likewise treat on short-time problems.

"The question that has been long in the mind of the writer is whether this type of program is the only kind of program which Farm Bureau people or rural people can make succeed. This program is the most successful that has been devised yet for getting out farm people to local meetings. Are there no other possibilities?

"In discussing with the officers of these organizations the kinds of additional service which the University might offer which might be acceptable to the people, the answer can be summed up in the phrase: 'Those things in which the people are interested, - chickens, farm loans, crops, and live-stock.' I have encountered with these questions: 'Is it possible that your people might need new interests?' 'Could they be interested in avenues of information and action which would make for better communities and better government?'"

A. B. BALLANTYNE.

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UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS.

Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 285, "Rural Social Organization in Washington County, Arkansas," by T. C. McCormick, was published in May.

Tabulation is under way on similar studies in the upland cotton and rice areas in southern Arkansas.

The first term of the summer session 43 students were enrolled in courses on the rural family and race relations, including five graduate majors in rural sociology.

T.C.McCORMICK.

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MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE.

During the past year the field work of the Department has been with reference to three projects: a survey of the rural church as a social and community institution, in two counties; a resurvey of farm families in the standard of living project in order to determine the adjustments that they have been making during the depression; and a case study of seven communities in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. This case study is being conducted in cooperation with the Advisory Committee on Physical, Social, and Economic Trends of the State Commission of Inquiry into County, Township, and Local Government. The Department has also collected and measured the content of a sample of forty weekly newspapers. The purpose is to analyze the content of the rural weekly from the standpoint of its influence in community development.

Special Bulletin 236, Population Trends in Michigan, by Dr. J. F. Thaden has been published by the Agricultural Experiment Station. Three bulletin manuscripts have been completed; one deals with changes in the population and services in rural trade centers in Michigan from 1900 to 1930; a second pertains to community organization and the other analyzes census data relating to rural families in Michigan together with certain information from survey material concerning Michigan rural families.

The Department of Sociology is cooperating with a State committee representing various institutions and organizations dealing with the problems of youth in both rural and urban communities. Volunteers for Youth Service in a number of communities in the State have been secured. After a general meeting of these volunteers the committee hopes that a number of community conferences to consider the problems of youth may be held.

Margaret Cawood, who has been Instructor and Field Worker in Sociology since July 1, 1926, has resigned.

A State Student Collegiate Conference on Rural Leadership was held at Michigan State College, April 29, with an attendance of about 160 from the different colleges and county normal schools of the state.

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.

Prof. Walter Burr, who has been on leave of absence during the past year acting as state director of unemployment relief, recently accepted an appointment in Washington in connection with re-employment in industry. His leave of absence has been extended for another year.

Henry J. Burt, who has given full time to research in Rural Sociology at the Missouri Station for the past several years, has resigned to enter Newton Theological Seminary, at Newton, Massachusetts, with a view to the promotion of rural organization programs related to the larger parish movement within the rural church field.

Dr. L. Guy Brown, formerly of the Department of Sociology of Ohio Wesleyan University, is carrying the work of Professor Walter Burr during his absence. Dr. Brown has had extended experience in various phases of social work. He will teach the technical social case work courses and will direct the research of graduate majors in that field.

During the summer Dr. E. L. Morgan directed the practice work of students in training for rural social work. Arrangements have been made with outstanding social work agencies to give detailed direction to students working in Sangamon County, Illinois; St. Louis, Jackson and Boone Counties in Missouri; and Dallas County, Texas. The three months of practice work is a part of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Rural Public Welfare.

Two research bulletins which have recently been completed and are now on the press are "The Population of Missouri" and "Rural Community Trends - A Second Report."

The following research projects are continued for the coming year:

Public Welfare - Study of Poor Relief in Missouri
A Study of Population Trends in Incorporated Places in Missouri
A Re-study of Rural Population Groups in Boone County, Missouri

In the absence of an extension specialist in Rural Sociology the resident staff is promoting a portion of the extension project. This extends to counsel with communities which are interested in various phases of community organization. In the early fall a state conference on emergency relief and rural social work will be held, followed by district conferences of a similar nature.

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NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

"Incomes and Cost of Living of Farm Families in North Dakota, 1923-1931," is the title of North Dakota Experiment Station Bulletin No. 271 which is just off the press. The study was made by E. A. Willson, Agricultural Economist, Rural Life Studies, in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

This study differs from those made heretofore in that it presents income

and family expense data over a period of years with a view to showing the influence of changing incomes on the standard of living of farm families. Changes from year to year in the standard of living in terms of quantities of goods used were determined by making adjustments for yearly price fluctuations through the use of price index numbers for the principal groups of goods. One of the conclusions resulting from this analysis is that standard of living studies are comparable only when price changes from year to year and price differentials between different commodities and between different areas are taken into consideration.

E. A. WILLSON.

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OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE.

My program is such that my time will be devoted to teaching during the fall and to research during the spring semesters.

Three graduate students will pursue work toward the Master of Science degree with Rural Sociology as their major fields this year. The names of the students are M. Sullivant, Mrs. Mabel Looper, and Miss Vesta Frances Etchison.

Dr. J. T. Sanders returned to his duties as head of the Department of Agricultural Economics after spending the past summer in Europe.

O. D. DUNCAN.

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE.

Prof. W. V. Dennis reports progress on the preparation for publication, with very interesting maps, the results of his studies in Perry and Adams Counties. He also indicates that he has started work on a continuation of his study in Lebanon County.

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SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE.

Paul H. Landis of the Rural Sociology Department of this institution received his Ph.D. Degree from the University of Minnesota in June of this year. The title of his thesis was: "Cultural Change in the Mining Town; a Sociological Analysis of Three Mesabi Iron Range Towns."

Two new Rural Sociology research projects have been started during the current school year. They are as follows: "Factors in Land Settlement and Social Organization in South Dakota," and "Community Activities of Selected Rural Churches in South Dakota."

A new research bulletin entitled "The Growth and Decline of South Dakota Trade Centers, 1901 to 1933" by Dr. Paul H. Landis has just come off the press and is ready for distribution.

W. F. KUMLIEN.

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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

I am glad to report that in spite of the depression our department has been showing a consistently steady growth. The department is larger this year than ever before in its history. I have some seventy odd students in my introductory course dealing with the social economics of agriculture.

The D. Appleton-Century Company has recently published The Cotton Cooperatives in the Southeast by Wilson Gee and E. A. Terry - an account of the activities of cotton cooperative marketing associations in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama from the time of their organization to the spring of 1933. During the academic year, 1932-1933, and the summer of 1933, Dr. Wilson Gee has been at work on a volume entitled "Social Science Research Organization in American Universities and Colleges," a manuscript which is now completed and will be published early in 1934 by the D. Appleton-Century Company.

Mr. James E. Ward, Jr., after a year of graduate work at Harvard University has returned to his position as full-time instructor in the School of Rural Social Economics from which he was on leave. Mr. William Edgar Byrd, Jr., who supplied his place last year is now Junior Administrative Assistant in the United States Department of Agriculture. Mr. Ben B. Dulaney, an honor graduate of the University of Virginia in the class of 1933, will serve as part-time instructor in the department for the session of 1933-1934.

WILSON GEE.

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Wisconsin State Fair Displays Home Talent. In accordance with its policy of the past few years, the Wisconsin State Fair this year again expanded its opportunities for Wisconsin people to display their skill in music and recreation. Through facilities of its Little Theatre eleven Wisconsin Counties provided music programs for State Fair visitors. These programs included both adults' and children's quartettes and choruses and small orchestras and bands. Over eight hundred rural people contributed to these programs which were held every day of the fair. Another very impressive feature of the Little Theatre home talent was a program series of Bavarian, Polish, Norwegian, Czeck, and Croation folk dances and special musical numbers presented every afternoon in the Little Theatre following the music programs. Miss Amy Gessner, from the Rural Sociology Department, in cooperation with the Wisconsin State Federation of Music Clubs, was in charge of these programs.

Another home talent feature which developed rather large proportions at the State Fair this year was diamond ball, a play-ground modification of

regulation base ball. Thirty-six teams including over six hundred players took part in three state tournaments held during the fair. Five of these classes were restricted to rural county championship teams. One rural county, for example, had over a hundred such regularly organized teams this year. These games were played every day of the State Fair week, using two diamonds. A. F. Wileden of the Rural Sociology Department in cooperation with V. V. Varney of the State 4-H Club Department, and A. L. Masley of the Department of Physical Education of the University of Wisconsin was in charge of these programs.

Miss Mary Eva Duthie who is on a research fellowship for the National Committee of Boys and Girls Club Work has been working in the field all summer. She has finished work in Rock County, Wisconsin, Kossuth County, Iowa, and Goodhue County, Minnesota. She will spend one more year here doing both research work and field work to complete the project.

Carl F. Kraenzel who was on a fellowship of the Research Council at Harvard, received one of the fellowships given by the College of Agriculture for the coming year. During the latter part of the summer he has been engaged in a study of Rural Population Mobility in Wisconsin. He expects to continue this study into the fall and winter, as well as to do a year of regular graduate work.

E. L. Kirkpatrick of the Department of Rural Sociology has been granted leave for the present semester to work with the Federal Emergency Relief Administration with a study of the causes, extent and probable effect of relief-giving in the rural areas. Dr. Kirkpatrick is connected with the Division of Research and Statistics in the Relief Administration.

Rosalind Tough who received her doctorate at Northwestern University in June, has been appointed a research assistant in the Department of Rural Sociology. Helen Gitchell has been appointed as temporary assistant. Miss Tough and Miss Gitchell will handle the research project of Dr. Kirkpatrick's during his absence.

E. L. KIRKPATRICK.

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RURAL SOCIOLOGY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The following is an excerpt from a letter just received from South Africa:

"You will be interested to learn that the University of South Africa has established, in the present year, a degree of Bachelor of Economics (Social Studies). This is not intended to be an agricultural degree, but

a final year course in 'Rural Sociology and Agricultural Economics' has been included. A diploma in Social Studies is likely to be established also, but details of the course for the diploma have not yet been considered.

"South Africa is very interesting from the sociological point of view. In Natal there are three races of farmers - 'Europeans' (including people of both British and Dutch extraction) Indians, and Bantu, from which many complex problems arise.

"I trust that all goes well with you. Your concise and useful periodical 'Farm Population and Rural Life Activities' keeps me in touch with your work."

EDMUND WHITTAKER
Natal University College,
Durban, South Africa.

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RURAL POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE IN SWEDEN.

A lot of enquiries on social conditions in agriculture (wages, cost of living, housing, etc.) have been carried by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Just in progress is an enquiry on the standard of living of agricultural workers, forest workers and farmers, founded on bookkeeping in about 1,500 rural families during a whole year. Surveys on prices and profits in agriculture are regularly made by the Agricultural Bureau in cooperation with the Swedish Agricultural Association and the provincial agricultural associations.

For the development of the cultural arts in rural Sweden much is done by the Swedish Sloyd Association. "4-H Club work" is practiced with good results by the Farm Youth Association which also is interested in adult education in rural communities. The main carriers of this are the folk schools.

BERTIL NYSTROM
Stockholm, Sweden.

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RURAL SOCIOLOGY IN WALES.

During the last four years the following theses in rural sociology for degrees have been presented in this College:

- D. J. Davies, Ph.D.: Physical and Mental Characteristics of the Rural Population, 1871 - 1930.
- E. Ll. Harry, M. A.: A Survey of Social Organization of a Rural Parish (Badsey, Worcestershire).
- R. Henderson, B. Sc.: Agricultural Labour in North Northumberland - A Study of Migration and some Factors of Social Inheritance of Occupation.

A. W. ASHBY
University College of Wales,
Aberystwyth, Wales.

STUDENTS FROM ABROAD VISIT THE DIVISION.

Dr. Thure Bjorkman, Secretary of the Swedish Academy of Agriculture, Stockholm, Sweden, and Dr. Leo Drescher, University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany, recently spent some time in the Division studying the methods of research, cooperation with the colleges, and publications.

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USE OF THE DIVISION'S PRODUCT.

So many persons have visited the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life during the years, wishing to know what the Division has done and stands for in the Bureau and in the Nation at large, that it was thought best to bring together in bound volumes all of the materials, whether in print or mimeograph, put out by the Division during its period in the Bureau, with a table of contents and a card index by subjects. It is very gratifying to see how useful these volumes have been to the persons who have attempted to study the Division's work. In place of a verbal statement along with a few scattered bulletins, a student of our work has before him everything that the Division has done from its start, so indexed that any subject is available. Persons have spent days and days studying our product during the past year. They have been interested to look into the project statements with the states and gather the exact method of particular studies.

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PART-TIME FARMING AND INDUSTRIAL
EMPLOYMENT IN NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA.

Dr. T. B. Manny, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, has recently completed a month's field trip involving a study of part-time farming and industrial employment around Duluth and the Iron Range. This work is one phase of the land-use survey of 16 northern Minnesota counties now being conducted by the Division of Land Economics in cooperation with other bureaus and divisions of the Department of Agriculture, and the University of Minnesota and other agencies in that State.

Local executives of the principal employers of labor, the railroads, ore-mining companies, and steel and cement manufacturers, evidenced much interest in this subject, according to Dr. Manny. A number of families of industrial workers have been living on small acreages for several years, and considerable recent expansion is much in evidence. The greater ability of this group to withstand severe declines in wages under the short-work schedules prevailing over the past three years compared with families totally dependent upon wages for their livelihood has drawn attention to the possibility of encouraging more wage workers to locate on 2 to 10-acre tracts

within reasonably easy reach of their places of employment.

The chief problem that has arisen in the development of this movement is that some people paid far too much for the land they occupy. It was repeatedly pointed out that subsistence farming could not stand the land values common in suburban developments where the occupants want spacious grounds for landscaping effects, recreation, etc., rather than for food production.

The employers recommended that only men with families capable of rendering material assistance in food raising should attempt this means of reducing the cash cost of living and that monthly payments on interest and principal for an improved small farm should not exceed the amount the same family would pay for rent in town. Social, psychological, and health advantages were stressed by almost every person consulted, some remarking that except in times of extremely slack work the non-economic advantages are much more important than are the possible financial gains from combining subsistence farming and industrial employment.

A complete report on this survey will be prepared as a part of the general report on land-use problems and opportunities of the area.

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT GIVEN ATTENTION.

At the University of Virginia Institute of Public Affairs held at the University of Virginia in July, the following subjects were discussed:

County Government, Rural Justice, County Finance, County Consolidation, Recent Progress in County Government, and Internal Administrative Set-Up in County of about 30,000 Population.

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RURAL AREAS AND TOWN GOVERNMENT IN NEW YORK STATE.

The Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station has recently put out a bulletin by C. R. Wasson and Dwight Sanderson, entitled, "Relation of Community Areas to Town Government in the State of New York." This is the result of a cooperative study between the Department of Rural Social Organization at Cornell and the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The purpose of this study may be stated in the following words:

"This study has been concerned solely with the relation between the towns and the natural socio-economic areas of the State of New York and with the effect of this relationship on the governmental services received by the residents of these towns. It has been concerned only indirectly with possible

changes in the town, and to the extent that the data gathered might serve as an indication of the direction in which such changes as may be made in the future should proceed. Suggestions concerning such changes have come from three sources: from town officials and town residents, from the report of the Special Joint Legislative Committee for the Recodification of the Town Law, and from recent publications and papers in the fields of political science and sociology."

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LOCAL GROUP ORGANIZATION IN ILLINOIS.

The Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Illinois has recently published a bulletin by D. E. Lindstrom, entitled, "Local Group Organization Among Illinois Farm People." Mr. Lindstrom says:

"Farm people in Illinois, the evidence shows, believe in local farm-family organizations to further their educational, social, cultural, and economic interests. Sixty-four per cent of the 433 farm people submitting data expressed the opinion that farm-family groups should, ideally, give special emphasis to 'educational purposes.' "

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MEMBERS OF MANY FARM FAMILIES ENGAGE IN OTHER OCCUPATIONS.

It will be recalled that the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life cooperated with the Bureau of the Census in tabulating the farm population of eight counties. This document entitled, "Farm Population of Eight Selected Counties" was published in 1924 and one of the interesting facts brought to light was that thousands of members of farm families in these counties were engaged in non-agricultural occupations while living on the farms. Later, in studies of the standard of living in certain counties of Ohio it was found that a large percentage of the income of the families was derived from work of many kinds off the farms.

These, and other facts led to the introduction into the Census of 1930 of a question on part-time farming. The results of this Census have been eye-openers to many people in regard to the occupation of both operators of farms and members of the families of operators. In fact, colleges in several states have either already made studies on part-time farming in their states or are in process of making such studies. The 1930 Census indicated that nearly 2,000,000 of the 6,000,000 farm operators, to say nothing of members of their families, in 1929 spent on an average of 100 days off the farm in work under the supervision of someone else.

Indeed, the experience of many countries in Europe as well as a careful study of the small farmers of the United States may prompt us to the question whether we, in this country, should not prepare for increasing the standard of living of many of the families living on small farms, as well as preparing to increase the number of families living on small plots of land - these families to be taken out of the cities in order to furnish some subsistence so as to increase their living facilities.

There are many sociological aspects of this matter which should become objects of study by rural sociologists.

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